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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BENTLEY-with-ARKSEY

Twenty First
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for 1945

by

J. T. BRIGGS
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1945

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Bentley,
Near Doncaster,
6th May, 1946.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1945 for your consideration. Some branches of Public Health work have received very little attention as the members of the staff are in the Forces, but all urgent work has received immediate attention.

Nearly all the wartime emergency work has closed down and the process of clearing up is moving satisfactorily.

I have to thank Dr. Ferguson, members of the staff and members of the Council, for their valuable help during the year.

Yours faithfully,

J. T. BRIGGS,
Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

J. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary, Housing and Petroleum Inspector.

J. T. BRIGGS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspector's Certificate	Royal Sanitary
Sanitary Science Certificate	Institute
Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate	do.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate	do.

Assistant.

E. GILLOTT (H.M. Forces, 16/1/41).

Clerks.

L. BARBER (Fleet Air Arm, 4/10/43).

G. WYMAN (Miss)

Billeting Clerk.

N. HATFIELD (Mrs.)

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
No. of visits made	3606	2277
,, complaints received	457	
,, complaints confirmed	445	
,, letters in lieu of notice ...	77	
,, verbal notices	274	
,, informal notices	760	
,, statutory notices	134	
,, letters and notices outstanding 31/12/45	152	
,, Matters referred to Surveyor	39	

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Meat Pool Centre	8	
Slaughterhouses	33	
Meat and Food Inspections	149	
Accumulations	2	
Animals and Poultry	1	
Back Roads	18	
Bakehouses	3	
Cesspools	3	
Closets - Water	211	36
Complaints investigated	252	
Complaints confirmed	240	
Coal Gas	2	
Cowsheds	53	
Dairies	89	
Drains	191	17
Dustbins	1038	2100
Factories	15	
Food preparing places	14	
Food Shops and Stores	37	
Houses re Scarlet Fever	23	
,, Diphtheria	6	
,, Tuberculosis	4	
,, Overcrowding	3	
,, Dirty conditions	21	21
,, Bugs	16	18
,, other Vermin	37	
Interviews	61	
Knackers Yard	9	
Moveable Dwellings	47	
Moveable Dwelling Sites	18	
Offensive Trades	9	
Petroleum	40	
Prospective Council Tenants ...	9	
Rats and Mice	51	

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
Sampling :		
Milk - National Scheme	246	
Milk - Bacterial Test	104	
Milk - Food and Drug Act ...	—	
Water - Bacterial Test	16	
Water - Chemical Test	7	
Sanitary Inspections	112	78
Sewers	29	
Special Visits	291	
Streams	27	
Street Gullies and Channels	30	
Tips	6	
Urinals	3	
Vacated Council Houses	12	
Water Supply	6	
Yards	4	7

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

HOUSES	
Coppers renewed	1
Doors repaired	3
Fireplaces repaired	4
Ovens renewed	2
Smoking flues cured	1
Floors repaired or renewed	7
Gas pipes renewed	2
Plasterwork repaired	1
Waterpipes renewed	19
Water taps renewed	3
Damp walls cured	6
Eaves spouts renewed	10
Roofs repaired	4
Chimney brickwork repaired	3
Windows repaired	13
Dustbins renewed	1038
CLOSETS	
Basins renewed	3
Flushing cisterns and flush pipes	11
Water pipe repaired	2
Seats renewed	2
DRAINS	
Cleansed	68
Repaired or renewed	2
Inspection chamber covers renewed ...	3
Inspection chamber reconstructed ...	1
Ventilation shafts repaired	1
Sewers cleansed	7
GENERAL	
Rat nuisance abated	27
Dirty houses	1
Animals and poultry	1
Streams cleansed	4
Accumulations removed	1
Back roads cleansed	6

SHOPS ACT.

Owing to pressure of work and lack of staff no visits were made.

FLOODING.

During heavy rains and high river levels a watch was kept on the district but, fortunately, no flooding occurred.

WATER SUPPLY.

One house was connected to the public water supply and one now draws water from a stand pipe instead of a well. There are now ten houses and seven farms on deep and shallow wells, and two railway houses which receive water from the public supply by rail. Seven samples of water were taken for chemical analysis and sixteen for bacterial test. All the samples for chemical analysis were satisfactory but one sample for bacterial test was unsatisfactory and arrangements have been made for laying on water from the public supply as soon as material and labour are available.

PRIVIES AND PAIL CLOSETS.

All properties within reach of the sewer are now connected. There are thirteen privies and twenty-two pail closets remaining.

CLEANSING OF CHOKED DRAINS.

The arrangements made in 1942 for cleansing drains still continue and have worked satisfactorily and such nuisances have been rapidly abated.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Bugs.—Nine houses were found to be infested with bugs. Seven were privately owned and two were Council property. This work was carried out directly by the Health Department, Zaldecide and Sulphur were used in conjunction with the stripping of woodwork and paper, this ensures that all filth is removed and only one re-treatment has been necessary.

Fleas.—Three places were treated with satisfactory results.

Crickets, etc.—Thirty-four houses were treated with varying results owing to the impossibility of obtaining satisfactory powders.

Rats and Mice.—The Ministry of Food's system of rat destruction has been employed with success at many types of places such as shops, houses, tips, sewage works, pumping stations etc., and the following details give some idea of the work done.

No. of premises treated	27
,, baiting points	178
,, baits (unpoisoned)	642
,, baits (poisoned)	178
,, dead rats found	269
Estimated kill (Ministry of Food formula)	2600

SMOKE OBSERVATION.

No observations were taken during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are four sites occupied by moveable dwellings, all of which are licensed and comply with the byelaws. Itinerant hawkers used unlicensed sites and country lanes for a few weeks whilst working this area.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Bone Boiler and Blood Drier 1

There was no new application for consent to the establishment of an offensive trade during the year.

PETROLEUM.

Twenty-five licences were issued for the storage of petroleum in bulk.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS.

DAIRYMEN, COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

Retailers taken off the register	—
Retailers entered on the register	3
Retailers of bottled milk (sterlized) ...	33
Retailers on register 31st December, 1945 ...	60
Wholesalers ,, ,, ,, ...	23
Producers ,, ,, ,, ...	19
Cowsheds ,, ,, ,, ...	36
Registered premises	25

All the cowsheds and dairies were kept in a satisfactory condition during the year.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1936 - 1941.

Supplementary licences were issued for sale of the following types of milk :—

Pasteurised	2
Tuberculin Tested	2

One producer of Tuberculin Tested Milk retails in the area.

NATIONAL MILK TESTING & ADVISORY SCHEME.

Sampling of milk under this scheme was carried out throughout the year and samples were despatched to the Department of Agriculture, Leeds University, for testing at fortnightly intervals.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

There are four slaughterhouses in the district for the use of which five butchers are licensed, and one knackers yard. Private slaughtering ceased after January, 1941, when wartime control of slaughtering was centralised at public abattoirs. Only 82 pigs have been dressed for private consumption.

The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, have been properly observed with regard to notices.

Special notices from slaughterhouses ...	37
Special notices from other premises ...	26

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Humane slaughtering of all animals in accordance with the Act is in force throughout the district.

No. of slaughtermen's licences issued ... 13

SUPERVISION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY. ...

FOOD AND DRUGS (ADULTERATION) ACT, 1938.

Under the West Riding Council Council's scheme your Sanitary Inspector carries out the sampling of milk in this area. Owing to the total absence of staff it has not been possible to carry out this work during the year.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES registered under Section 14

Preparation or storage of ice cream ...	2
Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pressed, pickled or preserved foods	15
Fish Friers	14

All premises were kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTIONS.

Visits to slaughterhouses	33
No. of animals slaughtered	82
Inspections of meat and food	149
No. of condemnations	151

CONDEMNATIONS OF FOODSTUFFS.

Beef	53 lbs.
Pork	14 lbs.
Ham and Bacon	75 lbs.
Sausage	15 lbs.
Pigs Lungs and Fats	12 lbs.
Fish (wet)	182 lbs.
Butter, Margarine and Lard	210 lbs.
Cheese	96½ lbs.
Eggs (485)	60¾ lbs.
Yeast	½ lb.
Apples	238 lbs.
Oranges	1379 lbs.
Dried Peas	125 lbs.
Dates	20 lbs.
Dried Eggs, 4 packets	1¼ lbs.
Flour - Semolina, 1 packet	1 lb.
Meat, 238 tins	1320 lbs.
Vegetables, 238 tins	14½ lbs.
Milk, 238 tins	11 lbs.
Fish, 16 tins	9 lbs.
Soups, 40 tins	28 lbs.
Pickles, 4 jars	7 lbs.
Jams, Syrup, Mincemeats, 20 jars	31 lbs.
Sauces, Wine Essence, etc., 13 bottles ...	3¼ lbs.
Bovril, etc., 4 bottles	1 lb.
Total	3907¾ lbs.

MILK.

Samples for Bacterial Test.

Type	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ordinary Milk ...	68	42	25
Ordinary Milk (heat treated)	8	8	—
Graded Milk	19	18	1
Bottled, Sterilised ...	6	5	1
Total ...	101	73	27

One bottle broken in transit.

Ordinary Milks. Methylene Blue Test.

Time of Decolourisation	Summer Time	Winter Time
Under 1 hour	7	—
Between 1 hour and 2 hours	4	—
,, 2 hours and 3 hours	2	3
,, 3 hours and 4 hours	3	2
,, 4 hours and 5 hours	2	1
,, 5 hours and 5½ hours	—	1
Satisfactory	17	25

Heat Treated Milk Sold as Ordinary.

No. of Samples	Plate Count Test	Phosphatase Test	Methylene Blue Test	Remarks
3	Under 100,000	Group 1	—	Satisfactory
5	—	—	5	Satisfactory

Graded Milk.

No. of Samples	Type	Plate Count Test	Phosphatase Test	Remarks
18	Pasteurised	Under 100,000	Group 1	Satisfactory
1	,,	Unaccountable	Group 1	Unsatisfactory

Sterilised Milks.

No. of Samples	Plate Count Test	Phosphatase Test	Remarks
5	Under 100,000	Group 1	Satisfactory
1	Over 100,000	Group 1	Unsatisfactory

The number of satisfactory samples shows a slight improvement on last years figures but there is still evidence that contamination takes place after pasteurisation due, no doubt, to dirty equipment or bottles.

Two samples of milk were take to close investigations with regard to tuberculous cattle, both samples were found to be satisfactory.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. CASES NOTIFIED AND INVESTIGATED

Cases notified 35
Cases removed to hospital 35

CLASSIFICATION

Scarlet Fever 26
Diphtheria 9

DISTRIBUTION.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Totals
New Village	11	2	13
Toll Bar	1	1	2
Old Bentley	0	3	3
Bentley Road	11	3	14
Arksey	3	0	3
Totals	26	9	35

2. TUBERCULOSIS

New Notifications 33
No. on Register, December 31st:
Pulmonary 103
Non-Pulmonary 65

3. DISINFECTIONS

Houses 47

HOUSING.

HOUSING ACT, 1936 - OVERCROWDING.

Three complaints of overcrowding were confirmed but no relief could be obtained because of the housing position.

HOUSING ACTS 1925-1936 - CLEARANCE AREAS.

Of the clearance areas put in hand in 1937, two houses remain, and one is still occupied. No further work has been done in this respect since the war commenced.

INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

All houses declared to be unfit have been demolished and the sites cleared.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

No routine inspection of dwelling houses has been carried out, but all complaints have received immediate attention.

WAR-TIME EMERGENCY SERVICES.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATION SCHEME.

The cessation of aerial attack on London and the Southern Counties and the closure of hostilities in Europe caused a flow of returning evacuees which, towards the end of the year, left a small number of people who had no homes to which they could return, some of whom will remain in this area for some time yet as official evacuees.

CIVIL DEFENCE SERVICES.

All the services under my control, Ambulance, Mortuary and Food Decontamination have been closed down during the year. The Emergency Petrol Supplies Control has been continued and will, no doubt, last for quite a while.